

REMARKS

Initially, Applicant notes that the Examiner has still not indicated the acceptability of the drawings filed in the present application. Unless the Examiner indicates otherwise, Applicant believes the drawings filed in this application to be acceptable.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for returning an initialed copy of the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 23, 2004. However, Applicant notes that the Examiner did not initial next to the English language Abstract of JP 2002-101198 in the "Other Documents" Section of the form PTO-1449. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to return an initialed copy of the form PTO-1449 indicating consideration of each of the documents listed therein.

The Examiner has indicated the allowability of claims 4-10. Claims 1-3, 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Applicant's "Admitted Prior Art" (APA) (JP 2002-101198) also described in U.S. Patent App. Pub. 2005/0207402 to KOBAYASHI et al.

In this regard, Japanese Patent Laid Open Publication 2002-101198 is described beginning at paragraph [0013] of KOBAYASHI et al. The Examiner asserts that the Japanese prior art patent is described at paragraphs [0004]-[0020] of KOBAYASHI et al., which describe Figures 28(a), (b) and (c) as well as Figure 29. Applicant submits that this assertion is incorrect. The Japanese patent is a counterpart of U.S. Patent App. Pub. 2002/0095516 to NADA. A review of these documents fails to teach or suggest Figures 28(a), (b) and (c) and Figure 29 that are disclosed in KOBAYASHI et al. That is, NADA (which is the counterpart of JP 2002-101198) does not teach or suggest communication to a group (*e.g.*, group A and group B) as shown Figure 28(a) of Applicant's application.

Figs. 28 (a)-28 (c) do not correspond to the teaching of JP 2002-101198. Rather, JP2002-101198 (based upon a reading of the counterpart U.S. Patent Application Publication to NADA) merely discloses a calling side which includes a model 1, a telephone set 2, personal computer 3, local telephone network 4 and a server 7a which stores a table correlating telephone number and corresponding IP address. NADA further discloses that when an IP address of a destination side model is inquired from the calling side model 1 to the server 7, the server 7 transfers the inquiry information to the host global server 33. Thus, modem 1 obtains the IP address information of the server 7a, and sends a connection request to the server 7a, which converts the telephone number into the local IP address of the destination side modem 10 and relays the connection request. Accordingly, Applicant submits that NADA does not disclose at least a controller configured to set the extension number as a host address and to generate an IP address based on a combination of the network address stored in the memory and the host address, as specified in claim 1.

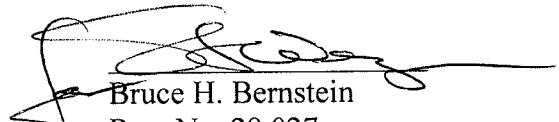
Moreover, U.S. Patent App. Pub. 2005/0207402 to KOBAYASHI et al. may not be applied in a prior art rejection of the pending claims insofar as its publication date of September 22, 2005 is after the January 26, 2004 filing date of the current application.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested, along with an indication of the allowability of claims 1-3, 11 and 12 and the re-confirmation of the allowability of claims 4-10.

Should it be determined that an extension of time is required in order to render this response timely and/or complete, a formal request for an extension of time, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), is herewith made in an amount equal to the time period required to render this response timely and/or complete. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required extension of time fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this response, or the present application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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